

We claim:

1. A method for processing a call from a calling party at a calling communication station to a called communication station, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining whether standard caller identification information for the calling communication station can be provided to the called communication station;

(b) transmitting a request for audible caller identification information to the calling communication station in response to a determination that the standard caller identification information cannot be provided to the called communication station; and

(c) transmitting the audible caller identification information to the called communication station.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the step of determining whether caller identification information for the calling communication station is unavailable.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the step of determining whether caller identification information for the calling communication station is incomplete.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) comprises the step of determining whether caller identification information for the calling communication station has been blocked.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) comprises the step of transmitting a request for the calling party to speak his/her name.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises the steps of recording the audible caller identification information and transmitting the recorded audible caller identification information to the called communication station.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting a message to the called communication station, the message comprising accept and reject options and a request for input from the called communication station.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting the calling communication station with the called communication station in response to input from the called communication station.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of connecting the calling communication station with the called communication station in response to dual tone multi-frequency tones transmitted from the called communication station.

10. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of canceling the call in response to the called communication station being placed on hook.